

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY NEWSLINE

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INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY SECTION UPDATE

In June, the Instructional Technology section completed processing technology plans needing state approval in 2008, began compiling data from the program evaluation narratives submitted by districts with FY08 competitive grants, and nearly completed negotiating all of the FY09 competitive grant awards. This July and August, the section will analyze the technology census and district evaluation data and work on state summary reports. Meanwhile, districts are encouraged to attend the upcoming ePeGS workshops. Workshops will be offered in July and August, across the state, to help districts enter required improvement plans into the new planning system in a timely fashion. All districts and charter LEAs are encouraged to attend the ePeGS workshops – especially those 283 that need to submit new technology plans in April 2009 for state approval.

Have a great summer.

-- Deborah S. Sutton

DESE Budgets / Grant Programs

FY09 Education Technology Programs

<http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/instrtech/>

Federal Title II.D Competitive Grants

<http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/instrtech/federalfunded/TitleIID/>

Sixteen (16) grants – eight first-year and eight continuation grants – have been awarded for the 2008-09 school year. Funded projects support school-wide and/or district-wide eMINTS implementation models, designed to meet local educational needs. See the program website for a listing of these grants.

State eMINTS/METS School Grants

<http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/instrtech/METS%20School%20Grant%20Pgrm/index.html>

Five (5) grants have been awarded for the 2008-09 school year. Funded projects support school-wide eMINTS implementation models to improve teaching and learning, focusing on mathematics and/or science instruction. See the program website for a listing of these grants.

FY09 State Safe Schools Program

<http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/safeschools/index.html>

Forty (40) grants – nine first-year and 31 continuation (five second-year, 26 third-year, and one fourth-year) grants – have been awarded for the 2008-09 school year. Funded district and/or consortium projects support alternative school programs and services designed to meet the educational needs of targeted students (those exhibiting violent, abusive, and chronically disruptive behaviors). See the program website for a listing of these grants.

MOREnet K-12 Technology Networking Program (TNP)

<http://www.more.net/programs/k12tnp/index.html>

FY09 TNP application packets were distributed to district contacts in June. Although the fee structure for FY09 is the same as for FY08, MOREnet and the Department expect to have to increase the fees for FY10. Districts are asked to complete the application packets in a timely fashion.

Technology Plans and Data Collection

Technology Plan State Approval

<http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/instrtech/techplan/index.htm>

For the spring 2008 cycle, the Department approved 60 district and charter LEA plans, effective July 1, 2008 through June 2011. Following is information for the spring 2009 approval cycle.

According to Instructional Technology records, over 280 districts and charter LEAs will need to have new technology plans approved by the Department next spring. These districts are reminded that technology plans submitted for approval in April 2009 must be completed online via the Department's new electronic Planning and electronic Grants System (ePeGS). This planning tool is designed to help districts develop, implement, and evaluate long-range plans such as the district comprehensive school improvement plan (CSIP), education technology plan, Perkins plan, and other required plans. Note that because technology plans must be aligned to district CSIPs (or Charters), they cannot be developed or entered into ePeGS in isolation – the CSIP must be entered first or at the same time as the technology plan.

Following is information about a series of general ePeGS workshops that will be offered this summer and a list of important links. Districts with technology plans due in April 2009 can expect to receive correspondence soon regarding the specific technology plan requirements and additional workshop and technical assistance opportunities.

ePeGS Workshops

Included in the June 25 DESE Mailbag, is a letter to school administrators advising them of upcoming ePeGS workshops to be held across the state, July 14 through August 27. These half-day (morning or afternoon) sessions will emphasize the importance of improvement planning, explain the expectations and requirements for the use of ePeGS, and walk participants through the components of the planning tool. This tool is designed to help districts develop comprehensive school improvement plans (CSIPs) that cover the needs of all programs. Note that schools have the 2008-09 school year to complete the planning section, in preparation for the 2009-10 school year when federal No Child Left Behind grant programs (among others) will require applicants to attach funding sources to applicable plans and their goals, objectives, and strategies. See: http://dese.mo.gov/epegs/documents/6_24_08_Memo.pdf

Technology Planning Resources

- To determine whether your district must submit a new technology plan in April 2009, visit: <http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/instrtech/techplan/districtstatus.htm>.
- For examples of how districts can “integrate” technology into CSIPs to create effective long-range technology plans, see: http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/instrtech/techplan/Ed_Tech_Strategies_for_ePeGS_Goals_No_v_07.pdf
- To access additional planning information and resources (such as approval checklist and score guide, the state ed-tech plan, planning tips and templates, and links to exemplary plans), visit the District Planning website, at: <http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/instrtech/techplan/>.

Core Data Census of Technology

<http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/instrtech/statefunded/census/>

Instructional Technology continues to review submitted data and contact those districts and schools that have not completed their data submission or cleared their data edits. The expectation is for the data to be completed and cleansed by July 3, the data analyzed in July, and the state summary report

completed in August. Districts are reminded that COT data are used internally for planning and evaluation purposes and to report progress in meeting the goals and objectives of the Missouri Education Technology Strategic Plan to the Missouri General Assembly and the U.S. Department of Education.